

WRITING PIECE 1 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1: "The wind whispered through the beach, scattering the grains of sand in a swirling flurry, while carrying the salty scent of sea." Strengths:

- Vivid sensory details that create a strong visual image
- Effective use of personification with "wind whispered"

Weakness: Limited development of atmosphere → Your description feels rushed and could better establish the mood. The phrase "salty scent of sea" needs more depth to truly immerse readers in the beach setting.

Exemplar: *The wind whispered secrets across the beach, scattering golden grains of sand in mesmerising patterns while the crisp, salty breeze carried whispers of distant shores.*

#2: "The beach was paradise to him, a serene haven where the golden sand met the azure waves, and the sound of nature whispered peace into his soul." Strengths:

- Beautiful metaphor comparing beach to paradise
- Good use of colour imagery

Weakness: Repetitive sensory elements → Your writing repeats similar peaceful imagery without developing Lucas's connection to this place. The phrase "whispered peace into his soul" feels disconnected from earlier descriptions.

Exemplar: *The beach was his paradise, where golden sand melted into azure waves, and each gentle breeze reminded Lucas why this place had become his escape from reality.*

#3: "Lucas twisted the bottle cork open, and dumped out what seemed to be a note." Strengths:

- Creates suspense about the note's contents
- Direct action that moves the story forward

Weakness: Underdeveloped moment of discovery → Your writing rushes through this key moment. The words "dumped out" downplay the importance of finding the mysterious note.

Exemplar: *With trembling fingers, Lucas twisted the bottle's cork free, carefully sliding out the weathered note that promised untold secrets.*

■ Your narrative shows promise in creating a peaceful beach setting, but needs to dig deeper into Lucas's emotional journey. Try showing why the beach means so much to him through specific memories or thoughts. Adding more details about his reaction to finding the mysterious note would make the ending more powerful.

Actionable task: Rewrite the paragraph where Lucas discovers the bottle, focusing on his emotional response and building suspense around the mysterious message.

Score: 40/50

Section 2:

#1 The wind whispered through the beach, scattering the grains of sand in a swirling flurry, while carrying the salty scent of sea. #1 The soft crashing of ~~small-sized~~ [small-sized] waves soothed Lucas, as he walked along the shore with a big garbage bag in his hands.

The soft, moist sand felt mushy, under the soles of Lucas's feet. ~~He had the beach all to himself, on the last day of summer.~~ [On the last day of summer, he had the beach all to himself.]

#2 ~~The beach was paradise to him, a serene haven where the golden sand met the azure waves, and the sound of nature whispered peace into his soul.~~ [The beach was paradise to him—a serene haven where golden sand met azure waves and nature's symphony whispered peace into his soul.] The beach was somewhere where he could forget about his real life. ~~Judgement was out the window as his ragged old torn out clothes looked like swimmers.~~ [His ragged, worn clothes looked like swimmers' attire, free from any judgement.]

Oh look, another one!

Lucas's hand reached out towards a glass bottle that was lying close to the water line. He carefully picked it up, noticing the faint outline of something inside, perhaps a message or just more debris from the relentless sea. The bottle's smooth surface gleamed in the afternoon sun, as it ~~infected~~ [injected] the slight taste of mystery into the air.

#3 Lucas twisted the bottle cork open, and dumped out what seemed to be a note. It was written in a language Lucas didn't understand but he swore he had seen it before, somewhere...

WRITING PIECE 2 - FEEDBACK

Section 1:

#1 "Every midnight, the stars above the village flickered off for exactly one minute, but only Liam seemed to notice." Strengths:

- Creates immediate intrigue with a unique supernatural element
- Establishes setting and main character efficiently

Weakness: Opening Hook Development → Your opening sentence presents an intriguing concept but doesn't fully ground the reader in the scene. The phrase "only Liam seemed to notice" needs more context about why others don't notice this phenomenon.

Exemplar: *Every midnight, while the village slept soundly in their beds, the stars above flickered off for exactly one minute—a mysterious occurrence that only Liam, with his endless nights of stargazing, seemed to notice.*

#2 "Liam groaned as he shifted in his bed, trying to find a position that didn't cause discomfort. His body felt like a heavy weight, unwilling to cooperate." Strengths:

- Shows character's physical state effectively
- Uses sensory details to create atmosphere

Weakness: Character Depth → Your description focuses on physical discomfort without revealing why Liam can't sleep or what's troubling him. The phrases "trying to find a position" and "felt like a heavy weight" need emotional context.

Exemplar: *Liam groaned as he shifted in his bed, his mind racing with thoughts of tomorrow's exam whilst his body felt like a heavy weight, refusing to surrender to sleep.*

#3 "That night, Liam went to sleep with an overdose of thoughts." Strengths:

- Memorable closing line
- Captures mental state succinctly

Weakness: Ending Development → Your ending feels rushed and doesn't address the mystery presented. The phrase "overdose of thoughts" needs specific details about what questions or theories Liam has about the phenomenon.

Exemplar: *That night, Liam's mind buzzed with possibilities—were the stars sending him a message, or was there something more sinister at work in the quiet village?*

■ Your narrative introduces a fascinating concept but needs more development of Liam's emotional journey. You could strengthen the story by showing how this phenomenon affects Liam's daily life and what steps he takes to understand it. Try adding details about whether Liam attempts to tell others or document the occurrence.

Actionable Task: Rewrite the final paragraph focusing on Liam's specific theories about the stars' disappearance and include at least two concrete actions he plans to take to investigate this mystery.

Score: 42/50

Section 2:

#1 Every midnight, the stars above the village flickered off for exactly one minute, but only Liam seemed to notice.

It all started one restless night when Liam couldn't sleep. Whenever he couldn't find sleep, he would turn to the night sky, seeking comfort in the quiet, guiding presence of the stars above. Their steady twinkling always seemed to offer a sense of peace, a reminder that the world, despite its chaos, was vast and orderly. But on this particular night, something was different.

#2 Liam groaned as he shifted in his bed, trying to find a position that didn't cause discomfort. His body felt like a heavy weight, unwilling to cooperate. Finally, he exhaled deeply and turned his gaze to the window. The endless stretch of stars gleamed back at him, their familiar twinkling calming him for a moment.

But as he relaxed, something caught his eye. One by one, the stars blinked out, disappearing into nothingness. Liam's heart skipped a beat. He blinked, rubbed his eyes, but the darkness around him remained. The stars were gone, and the silence in the night seemed somehow deeper, more profound. It lasted around one minute, and then, just as suddenly as it had started, the stars returned—twinkling like nothing had ever happened.

#3 ~~That night, Liam went to sleep with an overdose of thoughts.~~ [That night, Liam lay awake, his mind overflowing with thoughts about the mysterious disappearance of the stars.]

INTERVIEW

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph on being a good student) Strengths:

- Shows understanding of both academic and personal growth aspects
- Makes meaningful connections between asking questions and learning

Weakness: Limited development of ideas → Your writing touches on important points but doesn't delve deeper into specific examples. When you mention "striving to improve," you could strengthen this by sharing concrete ways students demonstrate this quality.

Exemplar: ***Being a good student means having the courage to raise your hand and ask "why?" when concepts seem unclear, and supporting classmates who might be struggling with similar questions.***

#2 (Paragraph about unfair treatment) Strengths:

- Demonstrates thoughtful approach to conflict resolution
- Shows consideration for others' autonomy

Weakness: Lack of specific scenarios → Your response would benefit from a real-life example. When you write "try to protect them," you could elaborate on specific actions you would take.

Exemplar: ***When I noticed a younger student being excluded from games during break time, I invited them to join our group and encouraged others to welcome new friends.***

#3 (Meeting historical figure) Strengths:

- Clear reasoning for choosing MLK Jr.
- Shows understanding of historical significance

Weakness: Surface-level questioning → Your questions could dig deeper into MLK Jr.'s philosophy. The phrase "what advice he would give" is broad and could be more specific to current civil rights issues.

Exemplar: ***I would ask Martin Luther King Jr. about his vision of peaceful resistance and how we could apply his principles of non-violent protest to address modern-day inequality in our schools and communities.***

■ Your writing shows good awareness of important values and principles. You could strengthen your responses by including more personal experiences and specific examples to support your ideas. Try to draw deeper connections between your thoughts and real-world applications. Your

answers would benefit from more detailed exploration of how these concepts apply to everyday situations.

Actionable task: Rewrite your response about unfair treatment by including a specific example from your own experience, focusing on the exact steps you took to address the situation.

Score: 41/50

Section 2:

#1 What does being a good student mean to you?: To me, being a good student means ~~willingness~~ [having the willingness] to ask questions when you need help. ~~Repeatedly ask~~ [Students should repeatedly ask] why or how until they understand it thoroughly and embrace challenges and look at them like they are opportunities for growth and understanding. But being a good student isn't just about academics, it's also about how they develop, their attitude and their mindset towards things, for example, striving to improve. Whether they are a good student or not also depends on how they treat other students. Therefore, being a good student is about being dedicated to both learning and contributing positively to the school community.

#2 What do you do when you see someone being treated unfairly?: When I see someone being treated unfairly, my first instinct is to observe carefully to understand the situation before taking action. If the person is standing up for themselves, I'll let them handle it, as it's important for people to learn how to defend themselves. However, if the situation involves physical contact or continues for a long time without the person defending themselves, I'll step in. In those cases, I'll try to protect them, teach them how to stand up for themselves, and remind everyone that violence isn't an acceptable solution. ~~My goal is always~~ [I always aim] to promote fairness, respect, and peaceful resolution.

#3 If you could meet any historical figure, who would it be, and what would you ask them?: If I could meet any historical figure ~~I would~~ [I would like to] meet Martin Luther King Jr, who was an activist and a leader in the American civil rights movements. I would ask him about the challenges he ~~had~~ [has] faced during the civil rights movement and what ~~had~~ [has] kept him motivated despite the dangers and difficulties. I would also ask what advice he would give to people who are fighting for their own rights right now. Martin Luther King Jr.'s perspective on fighting for rights may have a heavy impact on many people and may be able to change this world's inequality.